

SUBJECT: Minimum vent pipe diameter for toilets

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 25, 2010

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: ADM – 2.0904.1(1)

SEE ALSO: 2006 UPC – Section 904.1(1)

INTERPRETATION SUMMARY

This section in the UPC requires that vent sizes must be in accordance with Table 7-5. That Table contains a footnote that limits the total number of fixture units for 1½” vents to 8 with a toilet assigned a fixture value of between 3 and 6 in Table 7-3, depending on the type and use of the toilet. However, a footnote to the vent requirements for 1½” pipe in Table 7-5 limits the vents for toilets and 6 unit fixtures to 2” pipe. The Building Advisory Board was asked several years ago to make a determination if it was reasonable to permit a single toilet to be vented with an 1½” vent in lieu of the 2”. The request was based on the rationale that the footnote technically could be construed to mean that since the word “toilets” in the footnote is plural the intent was to prohibit multiple toilets on a 1½” pipe even though they might be within the permitted fixture units allowed for 1½” pipe, but that a single toilet would be acceptable. The Board concurred with this interpretation. Therefore, it is the policy of this Department that a single toilet may be vented with a 1½” vent.